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IMPORTANT INTIMATION.

NOW READY.



(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST, A DIRECTORY AND WORK OF REFERENCE ON ALL IMPORTANT LOCAL SUBJECTS FOR CHINA, JAPAN, THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, SIAM, INDO-CHINA, NORTH BORNEO, THE PHILIPPINES, AND CORREA, FOR THE YEAR 1889.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY" has again been enlarged and is THE CHEAPEST, MOST COMPLETE, AND ONLY RELIABLE WORK OF THE KIND PUBLISHED IN THE FAR EAST.

THE above named work, published at the Office of "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH," contains a Directory for the Ports in the large portion of Asia comprised between Penang, in the Straits Settlements, and the Northern Chinese Ports, including Wladivostok, Formosa, the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, Cochin-China, the Philippine Islands, Corea, British North Borneo, the British Colony of Hongkong, and the Portuguese Colony of Macao. It also contains the Principal Treaties between European countries and the United States and the countries East of the Straits, including the Treaties and Conventions between China and Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, the United States of America, Brazil, Japan, Peru, Spain, and Portugal; together with conditions of Trade, and the Port Customs, Consular, and Harbour Regulations for the Ports of China and Japan; also descriptions of the various Ports, with the latest Trade Statistics taken from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs and other reliable sources.

The various Governments and Municipal Corporations, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, Professional men, and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter, upon forms specially sent for that purpose so as to ensure accuracy. The Naval and Military portions have been taken from the latest published official lists and revised at Headquarters; in fact, no pains have been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a handy and perfectly reliable book of reference for all classes.

In addition to the information enumerated above "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1889 contains a carefully revised

INDEX TO THE ORDINANCES OF HONGKONG.

A SPECIAL LIST OF FOREIGNERS, employed in Steamers making short voyages from Hongkong.

THE PRIVATE RESIDENCES of the Principal Government Officials, the Leading Merchants, the Foreign Consuls, Professional Men, Justices of the Peace, &c.

A LADIES DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG; The latest and only reliable

PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA, showing the proposed Reclamations and all recent additions and improvements, AND

A Mass of interesting information on various subjects, culled from the most trustworthy sources.

A SPECIAL FEATURE. IN THIS PUBLICATION WILL BE A CHAPTER ON SPORT, (amended and corrected to date) dealing with almost every branch of the subject including R. A. G. CRICKET, ATHLETICS, AQUATICS, &c., &c., &c.

THE WINNERS OF ALL IMPORTANT RACES AT HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, FOCHOOW, AND AMOY, with times, and other interesting particulars, carefully compiled from the most reliable sources, make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," a *valde precium* for all classes of sportsmen.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1889 is Printed on a superior quality of Paper, and is the best priced and most handsomely bound volume published East of the Suez Canal.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," in order that it may circulate extensively outside this Colony, is published at a POPULAR PRICE, and can be ordered at This Office, or through any of our Agents at the various Ports, for

THREE DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong or any other part of the East, at such a low price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It has an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, in the Australasian Colonies, the United States, and the United Kingdom, and the scale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to the Office of "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" PIONEER'S BUILDING, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1889.

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

HAVE NOW IN STOCK

CRYSTALLIZED APRICOTS,
CRYSTALLIZED PEARS,
CRYSTALLIZED CHERRIES,
CRYSTALLIZED FIGS,
CRYSTALLIZED GREENGAGES.

CHOCOLATE,

CHOCOLATE CREMES,

CHOCOLATE MENIER.

NOUGAT, EVERTON TOFFEE, BUTTER
SCOTCH.

MUSCATELS,

FIGS,

JORDAN ALMONDS.

METZ FRUITS in 1lb and 1lb Boxes.

RIMMEL'S

FLORAL & ROSE WATER, CRACKERS,

&c., &c., &c.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 19th December, 1888.

BIRTH.

At Bowington, on the 9th inst., the wife of
N. J. ROBINSON, of a daughter.

The Hongkong Telegraph
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1889.

As we promised our readers yesterday, M. DE MAYRENA, King of the Sedangs, has lost no time in categorically and completely refuting the scurrilous attack made upon him by the titillate production of Lower Wyndham Street on Monday night.

The spirit in which that attack was penned showed itself in every line. It was a mixed feeling of "We've nothing in the paper to-day" and "ere's a d—d foreigner—throw a brick at him," that prompted the hiring to set a column of malicious abuse—verging more than once on the libellous—to the music of "Revelations," with the barest suspicion of truth as the theme and unlimited inaccuracies for variations. M. MAYRENA has done more than merely deny the alleged facts—we are in possession of numerous letters which support his statements, and which any unconvicted individual is at liberty to peruse. With regard to the "condensation" of the missionary's letter in the *Courier d'Haiphong*, we have compared the two, and, as we expected, find it to be a one-sided and unfair rendering of an account which M. DE MAYRENA's letters show to be entirely untrue in some points, and which are therefore inferentially inaccurate in others. But this letter M. DE MAYRENA has fully answered in the *Haiphong* paper, and we shall give his own story when that reply reaches us.

The facts of the case are these:—M. DE MAYRENA, with a roving commission from the French Government and some assistance from three French missionaries, for which he amply repaid them, obtained supreme power in the hitherto unknown country of Sedang. The French authorities expected that he would hand over his authority without recompense, and, on his refusal to cede what he had gained by his own prowess, refused to recognise him as King, claiming Sedang as a dependency of Annam, over which they hold a Protectorate. As the people inhabiting the country between Annam and Sedang are indisputably independent, and the Sedangs have never recognised in the least the suzerainty of the king of Annam, this claim was naturally denied. The French authorities immediately sent for the missionary who had accompanied M. DE MAYRENA—one GUERLICH—and gave him to understand which way his testimony must go. To a Jesuit lying came easy. He wrote to the *Courier d'Haiphong* letter after letter alleging that all along he assisted M. DE MAYRENA in the belief that he was an accredited explorer of the French Government's, denying blankly the story of M. DE MAYRENA—though without any supporting testimony—and consistently supporting the argument of his employers, the French authorities. What is this man's record? He ends his last letter by saying that he is going to "return to the calm of the apostolic life" among the natives. What a picture one draws of him!—a "Peace-bell" with you" sort of an old hermit, tottering painfully back to his exile after opening the eyes of the world to the machinations of an adventurer! What is the truth? This lover of the calm of the apostolic life dresses in jack-boots, with serge clothes and a sou'-wester, a big revolver at his side and a little cross in his vest-pocket; this ascetic is suspected of being anything but a disciple of the charitable Nazarene; he signed the treaties between King-Marie and the chiefs, he has given him holy pictures with Latin inscriptions on the back in which he recognises his Kingship, and now he pretends that he thought all along that Mayrenga had come "to see the country."

And exploit it on behalf of the French! It is on the unsupported testimony of a priest like this that a rabid parish like the *China Mail* tries to damn the character of the man whom, six or seven weeks ago, it was extolling as a wonderful knight errant.

TELEGRAMS.

(From *Straits Times*).
THE PANAMA CANAL.

PARIS, December 29th.
At a meeting of the bondholders it was resolved that the required capital should be found, interest being waived until the Canal be open.

PERSIA.
LONDON, December 31st.
The Persian note as issued is milder than anticipated.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.
January 2nd.
Sir Hugh Low has been created Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

ANOTHER MURDER.
A boy of eight years has been found murdered at Bradford, and worse mutilated than the White-chapel victims.

MEXICO.
The report of the rising in Mexico is stated to be untrue, and the New York papers are said to have been hoaxed.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE American corvette *Essex*, Capt. T. F. Jewell, left yesterday for Singapore.

A COOLIE was fined \$100 to-day for having a few tael of illicit opium in his possession.

THIS evening the Police Sergeants will entertain a few friends at a Beauséjour Arcade. There will be a dance afterwards.

AN accomplice in the recent shooting affair at Wanchai was this afternoon sentenced to six months' imprisonment by Mr. Pollock.

WE are informed by the agents (Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.) that the steamer *Arratoon*, *Apur*, from Calcutta, left Singapore for this port to-day, and may be expected on or about the 16th inst.

WE hear that one of the prisoners who the 91st Regiment, brought over from Ceylon to complete his sentence, proved pretty refractory, thrashing the turnkeys, &c., and that he received twenty-four lashes yesterday.

SEVERAL officers of the U.S. Navy, who arrived in Yokohama by the *Oswa*, have, says the *Japan Mail*, been appointed a Board of Appraisal to inspect the *Monsemy*, with a view, our contemporary believes, to the sale of that vessel.

THE New Year was not twenty-four hours old, says a Yokohama exchange, when we were forcibly reminded of the approach of the earthquake season, a severe and prolonged shock being felt in Yokohama about ten minutes after seven last evening.

WE are requested to inform our readers that there will be football to-morrow on the Causeway Bay Ground, under Association rules, between the Club and a scratch team of the 91st Regt. All members of the Club who can play are requested to be on the Ground at 4.15 p.m. when play will commence.

THE case of Lucas v. Curiambus was resumed to-day before Mr. Justice Leach. Mr. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. Wilson addressed the Court at length, after which his Lordship intimated that he would look over some points in the evidence, indicating that he was of opinion that the truth lay on the side of the plaintiff. He deferred judgment, however.

THE Foochow *Echo* reports that during the quarter from the 1st of October to the 31st December 1888, the following settlements in Tea have been made on that market:—

	Average prices.
105,624 chests Congon... at Tls. 11 per picul.	
11,776 " Souchow " " 12 " "	
27,000 " Chs. Oolong " " 23 " "	
21,185 boxes Scid. Tea " " 16 " "	
295 chests F. Pekoe " " 47 " "	

THIS annual installation meeting of the United Service Lodge was held last night, when the new Wor. Master, Bro. G. J. W. King, appointed his officers as follows:—1. P. M., Wor. Bro. H. L. Stringer, 2. W. Bro. W. Baker, 3. W. Bro. J. Bryant, 4. Sec. Bro. W. G. Goulbourn, 5. Sec. Bro. J. White, 6. S. D. Bro. I. Johnston, 7. D. Bro. J. H. Watson, 8. C. Bro. A. Saunders, 9. Steward, Bro. R. Thomas, 10. G. Bro. J. A. Ingles, 11. Tyler, Bro. I. Maxwell. A banquet was afterwards served, and the usual toasts honored.

THE following are the Orders of the Day for the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held to-morrow at 4 p.m.:—

1. Mr. Layton, pursuant to notice, will ask the following question:—Has Mr. Leigh's Report on the Proposed Drainage Scheme been forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies?
2. First reading of a "Bill to Amend The Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-Houses, and Markets Ordinance, 1887."
3. Committee on the "Reformatory Schools Amendment Bill."
4. Committee on the "Merchant Shipping Amendment Bill."
5. By-Laws under "The Public Health Ordinance."

THE following Tea Export from Foochow since the 8th ultimo, is given by the *Echo*:—

S.S. <i>Anchises</i>	41,098 lbs
" <i>Glanarney</i>	351,045 "
" <i>Claymore</i>	1,533,823 "
" <i>Delightful</i>	434,226 "
" <i>Opach</i>	680,102 "

For Continent:—

S.S. <i>Anchises</i>	42,520
For Hongkong:—	
S.S. <i>Anchises</i>	34,296
For Melbourne:—	
S.S. <i>Anchises</i>	8,822

For mail steamers in Hongkong to the S.S. *China*.

S.S. *Anchises*..... 12,780

For mail steamers in Hongkong to the S.S. *China*.

The export on the 31st instant from all China stood as follows (by telegram):—

Shanghai.....	50 million lbs.
Foochow.....	32 " "
Canton.....	16 " "
Total.....	98 million lbs.
Shanghai.....	56 million lbs.
Foochow.....	40 " "
Canton.....	18 " "
Total.....	114 million lbs.

WE would call the attention of the local Postal officials to the gumless state in which postage stamps are being sold, much to the inconvenience of customers.

THE man who was caught whilst dealing with the turnips stolen by pirates from a junk a few days ago was brought before Mr. Pollock again to-day, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

THE Foochow *Echo* says that the large quantity of tea in the country at present has placed some of the Chinese banks in a very awkward position, they having advanced against it to a considerable extent.

MR. C. D. Harman, agent of the O. & O. S. S. Co., informs us that the steamer *Gallic*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 18th ulto, has arrived at Yokohama, and will leave for this port to-morrow.

THE schedule for the forthcoming flower-show in connection with the Hongkong Horticultural Exhibition Society was issued to-day. The show will be held on the 14th and 15th February, in the Public Gardens, and the Committee organising it consists of Messrs. J. M. Armstrong (chairman and hon. treasurer), W. M. B. Arthur, J. Barton, Hon. C. P. Carter, J. H. Cox, E. George, H. J. Holmes, F. Rapp, A. G. Romano, J. Y. V. Vernon, A. B. Westland, E. L. Woodin, and C. Ford (hon. sec.). In addition to the usual Bellis the Prizes Society offers 40 first and 40 second prizes for plants in pots, four first and second prizes for cut flowers, 25 first and second prizes for vegetables, 25 first, 25 second, and 25 third prizes for vegetables grown by Chinese market gardeners, and three prizes for fruit.

IN a recent issue we (*Japan Mail*), gave statistics showing that the total produce of tea in Japan during the current year was 24,177,587 *kwanmei*, or 199,465,000 lbs. Deducting from this an export of 50 million lbs. in round numbers, about 150 millions remained for home consumption, or 4 lbs. per head of the total population of the empire. These figures were taken directly and without verification from the vernacular press, and they naturally attracted attention, being largely in excess of any commonly accepted estimate. The latest official statistics published do not carry us to a date more recent than 1884, the production of tea for that year being shown as follows:—

Year	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888
Tokyo.....	4,072,740	4,072,740	4,072,740	4,072,740	4,072,740
Kyoto.....	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850
Osaka.....	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850	3,183,850
Yokohama.....	2,183,850	2,183,850	2,183,850	2,183,850	2,183,850
Manila.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Shanghai.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Amoy.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Swatow.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Shanghai.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Amoy.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Swatow.....	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850	1,183,850
Total.....	22,784,565	22,784,565	22,784,565	22,784,565	22,784,565

According to the above table the total production for 1884 was only 50 million lbs. in round numbers. The export for that year was 353 millions, so that the quantity remaining for home consumption was only 144 millions, or less than half a pound per head of population. Our oldest information on the subject of tea production does not go farther back than 1876. In that year, according to official statistics, the total quantity grown was 22,784,565 lbs. (2,761,523 *kwanmei*), whereas the quantity exported was, as we certainly know from Custom House returns, 21,757,979 piculs, or 29 million lbs. The official statistics thus make out that in 1876 Japan exported about 6 million lbs. of tea in excess of her total production. It is plain that no reliance can be placed on such figures. If, again, we take the rate of increase in production indicated by the official statistics between 1876 and 1884, and apply it to the period 1884-88, the production for 1888 should have been about 70 million lbs., instead of 199 millions, as stated by the vernacular press. We trust to be able before long to place more accurate and trustworthy statistics before our readers. At present we confine ourselves to noting the difficulty of basing any accurate conclusion on existing data.

A DEFAULTING DEBTOR ON THE "CALEDONIAN."

AN affair which may cause some diplomatic difficulty occurred this morning on board the French mail steamer *Caledonian*. Last week R. C. Passmore, an officer in the Customs at Kowloon, was dismissed, and received \$2,000 or \$3,000 deferred pay. Instead of distributing this amount amongst his creditors, he brought the captain of the French man-of-war to the colony, and for that purpose took a passage on the *Caledonian*. About eleven o'clock one of the creditors, Mr. Schmidt, the gunmaker, heard of this, and his solicitor, Mr. Rody, issued a writ of attachment, which was given to Howell, the bailiff, to serve. Howell got it endorsed by the French Consul and went on board the *Caledonian*, which was a French mail steamer, is French territory. We hear that on his showing it to the captain the latter crumpled it up and refused to allow it to be served, and threatened to have Howell forcibly removed to his boat. The captain of the French man-of-war, however, came over in his boat, and quite a row occurred, the details of which we have not learnt. Ultimately Passmore left the steamer, either by coercion or of his own free will, and on getting ashore paid the debt—\$99. Many other writs had been got out, however, in the meantime, and on the authority of one of these he was arrested ashore. Howell reported the affair to the Registrar, and probably the Government will move in the matter.

MARINE DISASTER NEAR HONGKONG.

WE are informed that on the 7th inst. about 4 p.m., whilst the Revenue cruiser *Cum Sing* was doing duty in the neighbourhood of the East Brother, a junk was seen to capsize; two boats from the cruiser were immediately lowered to render assistance, when the vessel proved to be the passenger junk *Chun Shing*, bound for Tin Mun. Eleven persons were rescued, and brought to the cruiser, when the captain stated that three persons were missing. Mr. Blake, the officer in charge of the *Cum Sing*, again put off, and after great difficulty and injury to himself, succeeded in cutting a hole in the bottom of the junk and rescuing the missing ones. The sea at the time was very rough. The whole party were then landed at a point nearest their destination. The junk is now a derelict.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE KING OF THE SEDANGS AND THE "CHINA MAIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" (Translated).
SIR,—I have, first of all, to thank you for having offered me your valuable columns for my defence.

Having perused the first two letters from Father Guerlich, as well as the third, I am not sure whether I should, or should not, reply. How was I to reply to a priest without proving by his own writings, all dated and signed, that he has not told the truth? My hesitation to reply to the missionary who is certainly compelled to write is counter-balanced by the readiness with which I will answer your contemporary, the *China Mail*. I now reply to the calumnies published by your colleague, and will shortly reply to the *Courier d'Haiphong*. This will be a very simple task; the publication of the Father's letters will demolish all he says.

The *China Mail* says I am playing the good actor. I have never played before anybody, my behaviour towards the public has been that of a good burgess, attentive to everybody and ready to render any service in my power. This has been my constant care; and all my friends and comrades can testify to my having repeatedly told them "that the most agreeable thing to one who is made a King is to be able to do good to others."

The *China Mail* says that I intended to purchase the *Filipinas* for \$50,000. This is quite correct; and, if they will sell me the vessel at that price, it would not be hard to find \$50,000 for making that acquisition. Transactions are daily recorded of individuals who purchase 10, 15, or 20,000 dollars worth of coal, or other articles, and who find money when the commodity is worth double its cost. If a newspaper reader asked his friend for \$4 to pay a month's subscription to the *China Mail*, it is probable that he would be laughed at; whilst nobody would laugh at me if I asked for \$50,000 to buy the *Filipinas*.

Your contemporary mentions the missionaries and their financial dealings with me. I have never asked anything from the missionaries, and have never allowed them to interfere with my financial affairs. I came to Hongkong bringing a letter from the Bishop of Quibson to the Rev. Father Lemonnier, who received it but being ill, had no opportunity of looking into my affairs. It was not a letter of credit; I never asserted such a thing. The Bishop forwarded that letter to me at Quibson, and here is an extract from the document, which I place in your hands to enable you to attest to its authenticity before your readers:—

"My dear Monsieur de Mayrenga,—The tenor of the letter I address to the Procureur Général of Missions seemed to me, and still seems, sufficient for its purpose, for intelligent *pauvres*. When I saw it at a loss to know how to introduce himself" (the Procureur) will clearly see what it is all about, and will take the necessary measures to get you introduced to the English houses to which you are going to devote. Your contemporary also refers to my devotional turn of mind and to my subsequent transformation. Having been brought up a Catholic, I have gone to Mass as I am in the habit of doing whenever I arrive at a new town. I am a Catholic; but I go to church when I like, and this does not concern anybody. Personal questions have nothing to do with religion; if a priest errs, that is not a reason why his teaching should be condemned. I was told that several persons interested in the matter had been mixing up the priests' with my affairs, and I wrote to the Procureur Général to inform him that I had nothing to do with them, and I subjoin a sentence extracted from his letter in reply, which I also leave with you:—"Common politeness tells me to reply; besides I am under the necessity of thanking you for the two declarations which you have made with a loyalty worthy of praise."

As to Afong, I never said that he took part in a syndicate. Afong came here to get some Chinese to explore mines; this was the only object of his visit. The story of the 1,000 dollars is a fable; but had it been true, what wrong could the *China Mail* find in one paying one's debts?

The *China Mail* says that, as my financial arrangements with the English had failed, I proceeded to Canton. This is another falsehood. I am not bound to render an account of my private acts. Those who are interested in the matter may examine the dates. I was at Canton on the 11th December. As to my visit to the German Consulate, I certainly went there, but I never afterwards pronounced Mr. Budler's name, and the *China Mail* is not very little acquainted with diplomacy, and much less with German diplomacy, that listens but says naught, to believe in the untruth spread by outsiders.

Again, the Editor of the *China Mail* insinuates the word "adventurer" among the accusations against me. Well, Mr. Editor, we shall bring this word before the proper quarter, for discussion, as well as your insinuations against my private life.

You then talk of repeated suppers and dinners. As I am defending myself, I must tell the truth; I gave two suppers at my house, but no person connected with the newspapers was present. The Sedang decorations are not thrown broadcast over the colony. I have given only seven here. The *China Mail* has grossly exaggerated the affair, and seems to see the Sedang cross everywhere.

I am also told that I got a royal uniform made here, which is another mistake, as in my photograph, taken in Tonquin I am represented in royal garb.

As to the *China Mail's* allusion to the Queen, it is hardly necessary to be a King in order to possess a Queen; the shepherdess is queen to the shepherd.

Finally, I am taxed with having four coolies to my chair. What a crime! The *China Mail* must be very short of matter to bring forward such an argument. Yes, I have four coolies, and this shows that I weigh something. I wish the *China Mail* to carry its load of requiring four coolies to carry its readers.

Thanking you, Sir, for allowing me so much space,
I remain,
Yours faithfully,
M. DE MAYRENA.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1889.

"THE P. & O. AUSTRIO-HUNGARIAN, AND RUBATINO TRIO."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."—
SIR,—The year 1889 has been marked by a bad beginning for the commercial world, and especially for that portion of it that trades between Bombay and Hongkong. Three shipping companies, the P. & O., the Austro-Hungarian, and the Rubatino, have combined and have issued a joint circular over their signatures. The aim and object of the circular is the much discussed question of freight. Up to this, these three companies worked quite separately, a state of things that had its own use and good effect. It served to keep up a healthy competition between shipping companies; it tended to increase the import of Indian yarn, and other articles of merchandise into China and Japan, and it served to increase the exports from China and Japan. It led to the development of the cotton and yarn industry.

good and certainly a most lucrative field for any large company; it would be morally and materially backed up in the competition against this "trio."

There are many lines able enough to do that: the Messageries Maritimes, the Glen Line, the Blue Funnel, and a host of them. Substantial support to any line so coming out would be only too liberally given. People even go so far as to solemnly aver that vessels would be chartered, if no other course was open, to check this confeder

Commercial.

TO-DAY.

There have been transactions in Banks to-day at 65 for the end of the month, and 68 to 69 for March.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—104 per cent. premium, sellers.
Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$90 per share, buyers.
China Traders' Insurance Company—\$75 per share, buyers.
North China Insurance—Tls. 290 per share, buyers.
Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$97 per share, buyers.
Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 97 per share, buyers.
Chinese Insurance Company—\$165 per share, buyers.
On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150, per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$340 per share, buyers.
China Fire Insurance Company—\$79 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 37 per cent. premium, sellers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$233 per share, buyers.

China and Manila Steam Ship Company—1721 per share, sales.

Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Hotel Company—\$170 per share, nominal.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—20 per cent. dis. sellers.

Douglas Steamship Company—\$66 per share, buyers.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$195 per share, sellers.

Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$85 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Ice Company—\$102 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$80 per share.

Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$124 per share, sellers.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—100 per cent. premium, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—21 per cent. premium, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent. premium, buyers.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$88 per share, buyers.

Petrol Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$5 per share, nominal.

Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—\$7 per share, buyers.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—77 per cent. premium, buyers.

Tongkin Coal Mining Co.—110 per cent. premium, sales and buyers.

The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—250 per cent. premium, nominal.

The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$60 per share, buyers.

The Seng Kee Planting Co., Ltd.—\$39 per share, sellers.

Cruckshank & Co., Ltd.—\$50 per share, sellers.

The Steam Launch Co., Limited—5 per cent. premium, buyers.

The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Co., Ltd.—40 per cent. dis. nominal.

The China-Borneo Co., Ltd.—\$65 per share, sales and buyers.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 3/01

Bank Bill, on 30 days' sight 3/01

Bank Bill, at 4 months' sight 3/11

Credits at 4 months' sight 3/11

Documentary Bill, at 4 months' sight 3/11

ON PARIS—Bank Bill, on demand 3/78

Credits, at 4 months' sight 3/96

ON INDIA, T. T. 233

On Demand 223 1/2

ON SHANGHAI—Bank, T. T. 71 1/2

Private, 30 days' sight 72 1/2

EXPORT CARGOES.

Per *Ooback*, str., for London, 2,491 boxes

Tea (51,379 lbs. Congou, and 758 lbs. Sora; 8,151 boxes 175/21) Scented Caper, 1,025

boxes, Scented Orange Pekoe; 1,556 boxes Waste Silk, 434 packages Matting, 17 boxes

Bristles, 91 casks Soy, 42 cases Sundries, 9 cases Preserves, and 157 packages Merchandise

For New York—55 bales Fine Raw Silk, and 100 bales Waste Silk.

Per *Raphael*, str., from Hongkong for New York—12,038 packages Crackers, 11,543 rolls

Matting, 1,407 cases Fans, 980 packages Preserves, 300 cases Cassia, 213 packages Rattans,

125 cases Essential Oil, 50 cases Joss Sticks, and 134 packages Merchandise.

Per *Arctidia*, bark, from Hongkong for London—1,847 rolls Matting, 817 bales Straw Braid,

456 packages Cases, 300 cases Soy, 200 cases Preserves, 91 packages Rattans, 24 bales

Feathers, 2 cases Woodenware, and 51 packages Merchandise.

OPIUM MARKET.—THIS DAY.

NEW MALWA, per picul..... \$680

(Allowance, Tael 1 to 32).

OLD MALWA, per picul..... \$690

(Allowance, Tael 10 to 32).

NEW PATNA (without choice) per chest..... \$580

NEW PATNA (first choice) per chest..... \$584

NEW PATNA (bottom) per chest..... \$593

NEW PATNA (second choice) per chest..... \$575

NEW BENARES (without choice) per chest..... \$570

NEW BENARES (bottom) per chest..... \$570

NEW PERSIAN (best quality) per picul..... \$550

OLD PERSIAN (best quality) per picul..... \$500

OLD PERSIAN (second quality) per picul..... \$475

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Gaelic*, with San Francisco mails to the 18th ultimo, will leave Yokohama for this port to-morrow.

THE INDIAN MAIL.

The steamer *Arratoon Apar*, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 9th instant, and is expected here on the 16th.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The Canadian Pacific steamer *Batavia*, with the Canadian mail, left Vancouver on the 25th ultimo for Japan and Hongkong.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Kashgar*, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 29th ultimo, and is due here on the 9th instant.

The D. D. R. steamer *Heiphaia*, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 2nd instant, and is expected here on the 9th.

The steamer *Propontis*, left Singapore on the morning of the 5th instant, and is expected here on the 12th.

The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Glaucus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 8th inst., and is due here on the 15th.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

BENGAL, British steamer, 2,532, W. Barrett, 8th Jan.,—London, via Bombay 21st Dec., and Singapore 3rd January, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

HIDEYOSHI MARU, Japanese steamer, 466, J. Will, 8th Jan.,—Port Cockburn 5th Jan., Coals.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

YORKSHIRE, British steamer, 1,426, O. J. H. Arnold, 8th Jan.,—Amoy 7th January, General and Tea.—Russell & Co.

CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, American steamer, 3,548, Wm. Ward, 9th Jan.,—San Francisco 8th December, Honolulu 17th, and Yokohama 3rd January, Mails and General.—P. M. S. Co.

THALES, British steamer, 820, Hunter, 9th Jan.,—Taiwanfoo 5th January, Amoy 7th, and Swatow 8th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

KWANGLEE, Chinese steamer, 1,508, R. M. Andrew, 9th Jan.,—Shanghai 6th January, General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

NANZHING, British steamer, 808, R. Talbot, 9th Jan.,—Amoy 8th Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

Ingraham, German steamer, for Saigon.

Yorkshire, British steamer, for Singapore.

August, Norwegian steamer, for Nagasaki.

Namkiang, British steamer, for Amoy.

Clara, German steamer, for Haiphong.

Velocity, British bark, for Honolulu.

Freja, Danish steamer, for Haiphong.

Nansing, British steamer, for Manila.

DEPARTURES.

January 8, *Essex*, American corvette, for Singapore.

January 8, *Choyang*, British str., for Swatow, &c.

January 8, *Peking*, British str., for Whampoa.

January 8, *Soochow*, British str., for Swatow.

January 8, *Melbourne*, French steamer, for Saigon, &c.

January 9, *August*, Norwegian steamer, for Nagasaki.

January 9, *Namkiang*, British str., for Amoy.

January 9, *Ingraham*, German str., for Saigon.

January 9, *Yorkshire*, British steamer, for New York.

January 9, *Amoy*, British str., for Whampoa.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.

Pet Bengal, str., from Bombay for Hongkong.

—Mr. E. L. Collingwood, from Colombo.

—Mr. and Mrs. Fraser, 5 children, nurse and ayah, Mr. and Mrs. Ashton, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mrs. Robertson, and Mr. Roughton.

From Penang.—Messrs. Khoo Thean Poh and servant, and Chuen Tin. From Singapore.

—Messrs. E. D. Puckle, R. Bolling, Chu Nin, Thong Aie and servant, Choo Fook, and Miaoan, and 157 Chinese. From Colombo for Shanghai.

—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper and child, Mr. and Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Eason and 3 children, Mrs. Cassidy and 2 children, Miss J. Rhind, Mrs. Cousin's ayah, Messrs. H. K. Robertson, Hunt, Lachlan, Sellick, Cooper, Heywood, Macoun, Lambert, Holtz, Howie, and Allen. From Bombay for Yokohama.

—Mr. H. V. Brackenbury, from Colombo.—Professor and Mrs. Paternoster, 4 children and nurse, Miss Johns, and Rev. Nemura. From Singapore.—Messrs. Shidaka and Thokajeda.

Pet City of Rio de Janeiro, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Mrs. E. B. Ryder, M.D., Miss Kitty Southard, the Pundita Ramabai, and Lo Wai Yon.

Pet Thales, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Mac Danver, Mr. Wilkinson, and 63 Chinese.

Pet Kwangle, str., from Amoy.—150 Chinese.

Pet Nansing, str., from Shanghai.—Messrs. Ruegg, Bassett, and 110 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Pet Caledonia, str., from Hongkong for Saigon.—Lieuts. E. C. H. Lemaire, Albert L. M. Dor, Mr. Meiraz, and 20 Chinese. For Singapore.

—Messrs. A. M. Placé and assistant, R. MacCarthy, 1 Japanese and 17 Chinese. For Colombo.

—Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Cox, Dr. H. P. Watson, Captain M. Murphy, Mr. L. C. Elsworth, For Port Said.—Mr. G. Sarolides, For Manillela.—Messrs. J. A. Pereira, Thos. Kier, Saavedra, and Mateo Lau, From Shanghai for Singapore.

—Rev. Mr. A. Bush. For Manillela.—Mr. and Mrs. Brandt, Messrs. G. Girault, F. West, and Marcus Synnot. From Woon-sing for Saigon.

—Mr. Lambert. For Singapore.—Mr. T. Nakagawa (Japanese Consul), Messrs. C. B. Crouse and S. R. Magard. For Manillela.—Mrs. Hisa Oyama, Messrs. Ed. Shepherd and son, T. Oyama, A. Preulice, Maruno, J. Yamada, N. Komai, O. Takahashi, K. Nishio, S. Nakashima, and K. Yamakawa's servant.

REPORTS.

The British mail steamship *Bangal* reports that she left London, via Bombay on the 21st ultimo, and Singapore on the 3rd instant. Had strong north-east monsoon.

The Japanese steamship *Hideyoshi Maru* reports that she left Port Cockburn on the 5th instant. Had fresh monsoon with thick and rainy weather throughout.

The Chinese steamship *Kwangle* reports that she left Shanghai on the 6th instant. Had fresh monsoon and drizzling rain to Tung-ying; thence to port had fresh wind and cloudy weather.

The British steamship *Nansing* reports that she left Amoy on the 8th instant. Had fresh to strong monsoon from east-north-east to north-north-east, and overcast sky with gloomy weather.

The American mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro* reports that she left San Francisco on the 8th ultimo at 4.30 p.m.; arrived at Hongkong on the 16th, and sailed on the 17th at 1.15 p.m.; arrived at Yokohama on the 1st instant at 4.18 a.m.; sailed on the 3rd at 6.14 a.m.; arrived at Hongkong on the 9th at 6.42 a.m.; passage 5 days, 1 hour and 14 minutes.

The British steamship *Thales* reports that she left Taiwanfoo on the 5th instant, Amoy on the 7th, and Swatow on the 8th. From Taiwanfoo to Amoy had heavy north-east breeze and sea with cloudy weather and overcast sky. From Amoy to Swatow had strong northerly breeze and high sea with cloudy weather and overcast sky. From Swatow to port had moderate breeze and sea with cloudy weather.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Shanghai, *Pet Bengal*, to-morrow, the 10th instant, at 9.00 A.M.

For Amoy and Taiwanfoo.—*Pet Fokien*, to-morrow, the 10th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Amoy, Woon-sing, Kobe, Yokohama, and Vancouver, B.C.—*Pet Abyssinia*, to-morrow, the 10th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Saigon.—*Pet Duburg*, to-morrow, the 10th instant, at 4.30 P.M.

For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—*Pet Thibet*, on Friday, the 12th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Yokohama and Kobe.—*Pet Vorwarts*, on Friday, the 12th instant, at 1.30 P.M.

For Straits, Colombo, and Bombay.—*Pet Posidon*, on Saturday, the 13th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

ABYSSINIA, British steamer, 3,500, Geo. A. Lee, 12th Dec.,—Vancouver 13th Nov., and Nagasaki 8th Dec., General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

ALBANV, British steamer, 1,498, E. Porter, 5th Jan.,—Vancouver 6th Dec., and Yokohama 29th, Mails and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

AMIGO, German steamer, 771, T. A. Bruhn, 7th Jan.,—Haiphong 4th Jan., and Hoihow 6th, General and Rice.—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.

ASHINGTON, German steamer, 850, C. Zindel, 3rd Jan.,—Kutchinotsu 29th Dec., Coals.—Siemssen & Co.

BORMIDA, Italian steamer, 1,899, E. De Negri, 3rd Jan.,—Bombay, and Singapore 24th Dec., General.—Carlowitz & Co.

CALEDONIAN, French steamer, 2,634, H. de Maubeuge, 7th Jan.,—Shanghai 5th Jan., Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes.

CANTON, British steamer, 1,110, Bremner, 25th Dec.,—Swatow 24th Dec., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CHANG HYE TING, British steamer, 921, J. G. Scott, 6th Jan.,—Singapore 30th Dec., General.—Bun Hin Chan.

CLARA, German steamer, 679, Christensen, 7th Jan.,—Haiphong 3rd January, and Hoihow 5th, Rice.—Siemssen & Co.

DEVONHURST, Dutch steamer, 1,164, Houtkoff, 6th Jan.,—Batavia 30th Dec., and Singapore 27th, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DORIS, German steamer, 771, T. Raben, 7th Jan.,—Haiphong 4th Jan., Rice and General.—Wieler & Co.

DUBURG, German steamer, 921, C. F. Bertelsen, 5th Jan.,—Saigon 31st Dec., General.—Melchers & Co.

FAME, British steamer, 117, A. Stopani—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

FIDELIO, German steamer, 853, H. Brorsen, 3rd Jan.,—Bangkok 25th Dec., General.—Melchers & Co.

FOKIKEN, British steamer, 509, J. Lewis, 8th Jan.,—Tamsui 4th January, Amoy 6th, and Swatow 7th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

FRJER, Danish steamer, 397, C. A. Lund, 30th Dec.,—Haiphong 28th Dec., General.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

HAIPHONG, British steamer, 1,122, H. C. H. Harris, 5th Jan.,—Kobe 30th Dec., General and Coal.—D. Lapraik & Co.

HAITAN, British steamer, 1,182, S. Ashton, 30th Dec.,—Fochow 29th Dec., Amoy 28th, and Swatow 29th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

JOHANNES BRUN, Norwegian steamer, 716, 31st Dec.,—Haiphong, via Hoihow 28th Dec., Rice and Rice.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

PHRA CHOM KLAO, British steamer, 1,011, Wharton, 6th Jan.,—Bangkok 30th Dec., Rice.—Yuen Fat Hong.

PHUQUOC, French steamer, 183, Robin, 17th Dec.,—Touron 11th December, Coal.—Wing Tat.

PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

POSEIDON, Austro-Hungarian str., 2,511, S. Mersa, 8th Jan.,—Trieste 22nd Nov., and Singapore 1st January, General.—Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's S. N. Co.

SARTHE, French steamer, 470, Lehndé, 7th Jan.,—Bangkok 22nd Dec., General.—A. R. Marty.

THIBET, British steamer, 1,671, P. W. Case, 3rd Jan.,—Bombay 15th Dec., and Singapore 27th, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

TRIUMPH, German steamer, 677, P. Moos, 22nd Dec.,—Haiphong 19th Dec., and Hoihow 21st, General.—Wieler & Co.

TRITOS, German steamer, 1,142, A. Bleicken, 6th Jan.,—Panarockan 23rd Dec., Sugar.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

WINGSAN, British steamer, 1,517, A. de St. Croix, 8th Jan.,—Calcutta 22nd Dec., and Singapore 31st, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

YANOTSE, German steamer, 814, C. Tonningben, 2nd Jan.,—Whampoa 2nd Jan., General.—Siemssen & Co.

YESHIN, Chinese steamer, 714, Buchanan, 18th Dec.,—Shanghai 15th Dec., Kerosine Oil.—C. M. S. N. Co.

VORWARTS, German steamer, 612, J. Bruhn, 8th Jan.,—Touron, and Hoihow 7th Jan., General.—Wieler & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

ALTAIR, British bark, 399, T. Munro, 1st Dec.,—Newchwang, via Amoy 28th Nov., Beans and Melon Seed.—Order.

ARCADIA, British bark, 417, D. S. Eward, 25th Nov.,—Whampoa 24th Nov., General.—Wieler & Co.

AUGUSTA, German bark, 473, Jensen, 5th Dec.,—Hoihow 18th Nov., Sanpanwood.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

BYLOIA, German bark, 333, P. Weiss, 16th Dec.,—Amoy 14th Dec., General.—Wieler & Co.

COLOMA, American bark, 852, C. M. Wages, 16th Dec.,—Portland (Oregon), 2nd Nov., Lumber and Spars.—Captain.

DANIEL BARNES, American ship, 1,436, J. G. Stover, 17th Dec.,—Honolulu 12th Nov., Ballast.—Order.

ESMERALDA, British str., 120, H. T. Williams, 20th Dec.,—Maritanas 8th Dec., General.—Order.

ERUKOENTO, Chinese bark, 457, Optum Examination bulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese Customs.

IRON, French bark, 542, Régner, 24th Dec.,—Cébd 8th December, General.—Melchers &